

REMARKS

By this amendment, applicants have amended claims 11 and 16 to be in independent form by including in claim 11 the limitations previously recited in claims 5 and 9, and by including in claim 16 the limitations previously recited in claim 5. Applicants have canceled claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer, amended claims 6 to 8 and 15 to depend from claim 11 and amended claim 9 to depend from claim 16. Applicants have also added claims 18-21 corresponding to claims 6, 7, 8, and 15, respectively, but depending on claim 16.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 11, 16, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Noting that claims 11 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form and that all of the remaining claims ultimately depend from one of claims 11 and 16, it is submitted all of the claims now in the application are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments, the rejection of claims 5 to 10 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now in the application are requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli,

Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 520.40206X00),
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments